



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/847,620	05/02/2001	Jong-Kon Choi	9903-14	5622

7590

05/08/2002

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.
1030 S.W. Morrison Street
Portland, OR 97205

EXAMINER

MITCHELL, JAMES M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2827

DATE MAILED: 05/08/2002

#3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/847,620

Applicant(s)

JONG-KON CHOI

Examiner

James Mitchell

Art Unit

2827

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14 and 15 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the priority papers filed May 2, 2001.

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-13, drawn to method, classified in class 438, subclass 460.
 - II. Claims 14 and 15, drawn to device, classified in class 257, subclass 704.
3. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:
4. Inventions I and II are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process such as without a forming step.
5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
6. During a telephone conversation with Christine Lott on March 13, 2002 a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of group I, claims 1-13. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 14 and 15 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

9. Claim 9 recites the limitation "said metal adhesive" in Line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

11. Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art.
12. The admitted prior art (Fig 1-3; Page 8, Lines 7-29) discloses a method for manufacturing a semiconductor DMD package comprising a wafer (Fig 3, step 71) including a plurality of DMD chips (12) with a plurality of mirrors (16) and a plurality of pads formed at the periphery forming a photoresist on a mirror (Page 2, Lines 14-16), singulating a chip (steps 72 and 75) wherein the singulating comprises "fully cutting" the wafer (via half of the wafer fully cut), mounting the chip on top of a base substrate (20; step 77) and electrically interconnecting the bond pads (step 79), and removing the photoresist from the chip (80) with said package hermetically sealed (Page 1, Line 33).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

13. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

14. Claims 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art (APA) in combination with Mutsuo (JP 02-039442).

15. APA does not appear to show a metallic layer over the back surface of the wafer or a metallic adhesive, however Mutsuo (Fig 1) utilizes a metal layer (1) attached to the back surface of the semiconductor wafer with a metallic adhesive ("solder material"; Abstract).

16. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate a metal layer on the rear surface of the admitted prior art's wafer with a solder adhesive, in order to avoid defective bonding as taught by Matsuo (Abstract Purpose).

17. Claims 5, 6, 8 and 10-12, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA as applied to claim 5 and further in view of Takehara (JP 356115548).

18. The admitted prior art discloses the elements stated in paragraph 13 and further discloses (Fig 3) removing the photoresist from the semiconductor chips (step 73) and forming an anti-sticking film on the active surface of the chip (step 74), hermetically sealing said chip by forming a metal ring on the periphery of the base (Page 1, Lines 30-33), attaching a window lid to the upper surface of the ring (page 2, Lines 1-2),

wherein a distance between the upper base substrate and the lower surface of the lid is greater than the height of one or more bonding wires (as shown in Fig 2), a reflectance coating formed on the lower surface of the window (Page 2, Lines 2-3) and a moisture getter attached to the metal lid frame (Page 2, Lines 4-5) with a heat sink stud (60) to the lower surface of the base substrate.

19. APA does not disclose a low melting point metal layer consisting of lead on the back surface of a wafer, however Takehara teaches a method of forming a lapping metal layer consisting of lead on the back surface of a wafer (Abstract Constitution).

20. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to form a low melting point metal layer on the back of the admitted prior art's wafer in order to eliminate the improper connection of chips as taught by Takehara (Abstract Purpose). As such since the metal layer is placed over and covering a part of the wafer, it is lapping the back surface of the wafer.

21. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA and Takehara as applied to claim 5 and further in view of Poradish et al. (U.S 5,293,511).

22. The admitted prior art does not appear to disclose that the base is ceramic, however Poradish utilizes a ceramic base.

23. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to form the base of the admitted prior art and Takehara with ceramic to support the device as taught by Poradish (Abstract).

24. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art and Takehara as applied to claim 5 and further in view of Shoji (JP 401053795).

25. Neither APA nor Takehara appear to disclose a method of forming a metallic adhesive, however Shoji teaches the use of a metallic adhesive.

26. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the combined DMD structure of APA and Takehara by forming a metallic adhesive between the base and chip to improve joint strength as taught by Shoji (Abstract).

Allowable Subject Matter

27. Claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

28. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Gale et al. (U.S 5,605,489), Notani (EP 0499752), Onishi (JP 359198714), Sekida (JP 63221634).

The prior art discloses in Gale the use of a fully cut wafer to separate a DMD and in Notani, Onishi and Sekida the use of a metal layer on a rear side of a wafer.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Mitchell whose telephone number is (703) 305-0244. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10:30-8:00.

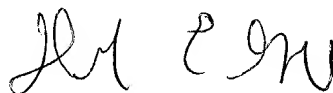
Application/Control Number: 09/847,620
Art Unit: 2827

Page 7

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Talbott can be reached on (703) 305-9883. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3432 for regular communications and (703) 305-3230 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


jmm
May 2, 2002


DAVID E. GRAYBILL
PRIMARY EXAMINER